

1 S.198

2 Introduced by Senator White

3 Referred to Committee on

4 Date:

5 Subject: Executive; Agency of Public Safety

6 Statement of purpose of bill as introduced: This bill proposes to require the
7 Commissioner of Public Safety to propose a plan to elevate the Department of
8 Public Safety to the Agency of Public Safety in accordance with a potential
9 structure for the Agency specified in this bill.

10 An act relating to a plan to elevate the Department of Public Safety to the
11 Agency of Public Safety

12 It is hereby enacted by the General Assembly of the State of Vermont:

13 Sec. 1. COMMISSIONER OF PUBLIC SAFETY; PLAN FOR THE

14 CREATION OF THE AGENCY OF PUBLIC SAFETY

15 (a)(1) On or before January 1, 2019, the Commissioner of Public Safety
16 shall submit to the Senate and House Committees on Government Operations a
17 proposed plan to elevate the Department of Public Safety to the Agency of
18 Public Safety in accordance with a potential hierarchical structure for the
19 Agency described in subsection (b) of this section.

1 (2) That potential structure for the Agency described in subsection (b)
2 would maintain all of the Department's current functions, but would also
3 transfer to the new Agency of Public Safety:

4 (A) the Vermont Criminal Justice Training Council, the Vermont Fire
5 Service Training Council, and the Robert H. Wood, Jr. Criminal Justice and
6 Fire Service Training Center of Vermont;

7 (B) from the Office of the Sergeant at Arms, the management of
8 Capitol Police officers;

9 (C) from various State entities, the management of all State law
10 enforcement officers;

11 (D) from the Department of State's Attorneys and Sheriffs, the
12 management of sheriffs' departments and the coordination of special
13 investigative units;

14 (E) the Department of Liquor Control;

15 (F) the State Lottery Commission; and

16 (G) from the Agency of Human Services, the Department of
17 Corrections, including its programs regarding probation and parole.

18 (3) The Commissioner's proposed plan shall include his or her:

19 (A) recommendations on how to make the transition to that structure,
20 including any specific timing recommendations; and

21 (B) concerns, if any, regarding the structure.

- 1 **(b) Agency of Public Safety.**
- 2 **(1) Department of Criminal Justice and Security.**
- 3 **(A) Division of Criminal Justice Services.**
- 4 **(i) Vermont Crime Information Center.**
- 5 **(ii) Vermont Forensic Lab.**
- 6 **(B) Division of Emergency Management and Homeland Security.**
- 7 **(C) Division of Fire Safety.**
- 8 **(2) Department of Training and Education.**
- 9 **(A) Robert H. Wood, Jr. Criminal Justice and Fire Service Training**
- 10 **Center of Vermont.**
- 11 **(B) Vermont Criminal Justice Training Council.**
- 12 **(C) Vermont Fire Service Training Council.**
- 13 **(3) Department of Law Enforcement.**
- 14 **(A) Division of Vermont State Police.**
- 15 **(B) Division of Special Investigative Units.**
- 16 **(C) Division of Public Safety Officers.**
- 17 **(i) Capitol Police.**
- 18 **(ii) Motor vehicle inspectors.**
- 19 **(iii) Liquor control investigators.**
- 20 **(iv) Fish and game wardens.**

1 (v) Investigators employed by the Secretary of State, Board of
2 Medical Practice, the Attorney General, and State's Attorneys.

3 (vi) Sheriffs and deputy sheriffs who exercise law enforcement
4 powers.

5 (vii) Railroad police.

6 (D) Division of Internal Investigation.

7 (4) Department of Controlled Substances and Services.

8 (A) Division of Liquor Control.

9 (B) Division of Marijuana Regulation.

10 (C) State Lottery Commission.

11 (D) Sex Offender Registry.

12 (5) Department of Corrections.

13 (A) Division of Probation.

14 (B) Division of Parole.

15 Sec. 2. EFFECTIVE DATE

16 This act shall take effect on passage.